



Senate

General Assembly

File No. 333

February Session, 2012

Substitute Senate Bill No. 308

Senate, April 10, 2012

The Committee on Judiciary reported through SEN. COLEMAN of the 2nd Dist., Chairperson of the Committee on the part of the Senate, that the substitute bill ought to pass.

AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A BUSINESS DATA COLLECTION CENTER.

Be it enacted by the Senate and House of Representatives in General Assembly convened:

1 Section 1. Section 3-99d of the 2012 supplement to the general
2 statutes is repealed and the following is substituted in lieu thereof
3 (*Effective October 1, 2012*):

4 (a) The Commercial Recording Division of the office of the Secretary
5 of the State shall establish an electronic business portal [as a single
6 point of entry for business entities for purposes of business registration
7 pursuant to title 33 or 34] for business registration purposes. Such
8 portal shall provide explanatory information and electronic links
9 provided by state agencies, [and] quasi-public agencies and other
10 entities, including, but not limited to, the Labor Department, the
11 Workers' Compensation Commission, the Departments of Economic
12 and Community Development, Administrative Services, Consumer
13 Protection, Energy and Environmental Protection and Revenue
14 Services, the Connecticut Development Authority, Connecticut

15 Innovations, Incorporated, Connecticut Licensing Info Center, [The]
16 the United States Small Business Administration, the Connecticut
17 Small Business Development Center, the Connecticut Economic
18 Resource Center and the Connecticut Center for Advanced
19 Technology, for the purposes of assisting [such] business entities in
20 determining permitting and licensure requirements, identifying state
21 revenue responsibilities and benefits, and finding available state
22 financial incentives and programs related to such entities' businesses.
23 [The information provided for purposes of business registration with
24 the office of the Secretary of the State may be made available to state
25 agencies and quasi-public agencies for economic development, state
26 revenue collection and statistical purposes as provided by law.]

27 (b) The Secretary of the State shall establish a business data
28 collection center as part of the electronic business portal, established
29 pursuant to subsection (a) of this section. The business data collection
30 center shall serve as the state's central repository for business and
31 economic-related data. The Secretary shall consult with representatives
32 of state agencies, quasi-public agencies and nongovernmental
33 organizations including, but not limited to, the Commissioner of
34 Economic and Community Development, and the dean of the school of
35 business administration of The University of Connecticut to determine
36 the type and scope of data to be collected. The Secretary shall collect
37 specified data from entities transacting business within the state, state
38 agencies, quasi-public agencies and nongovernmental organizations.
39 The Secretary shall design and prescribe data collection methods and
40 forms. The Secretary may enter into agreements with state agencies,
41 quasi-public agencies and nongovernmental organizations concerning
42 the collection of data through electronic and other means. The
43 Secretary shall compile the collected data and make such data
44 available to the general public and to public and private organizations
45 responsible for aiding and promoting economic development within
46 the state. An entity transacting business within this state, which is
47 requested to supply data to the office of the Secretary of the State
48 pursuant to this subsection, shall supply the requested data in
49 conjunction with the entity's annual filing and reporting requirements

50 to the office of the Secretary of the State.

This act shall take effect as follows and shall amend the following sections:

Section 1	October 1, 2012	3-99d
-----------	-----------------	-------

Statement of Legislative Commissioners:

In section 1(a), in the second sentence, the phrase "assisting such business entities" was changed to "assisting [such] business entities" for consistency with the changes made in the first sentence.

JUD *Joint Favorable Subst.-LCO*

The following Fiscal Impact Statement and Bill Analysis are prepared for the benefit of the members of the General Assembly, solely for purposes of information, summarization and explanation and do not represent the intent of the General Assembly or either chamber thereof for any purpose. In general, fiscal impacts are based upon a variety of informational sources, including the analyst's professional knowledge. Whenever applicable, agency data is consulted as part of the analysis, however final products do not necessarily reflect an assessment from any specific department.

OFA Fiscal Note

State Impact:

Agency Affected	Fund-Effect	FY 13 \$	FY 14 \$
Secretary of the State	GOBonds - Cost	See Below	See Below

Note: GOBonds=General Obligation Bonds

Municipal Impact: None

Explanation

The bill requires the Secretary of the State to establish a business data collection center, as part of its electronic business portal. The cost of establishing this portal is estimated to be \$900,000.

It is expected that funding for the electronic business portal project will be provided through the \$5 million General Obligation (GO) bond authorization to the Secretary of the State in PA 11-57. Of this amount, \$2.5 million was allocated in FY 12.

The Out Years

The annualized ongoing fiscal impact identified above would continue into the future subject to inflation.

OLR Bill Analysis**SB 308*****AN ACT CONCERNING THE ESTABLISHMENT OF A BUSINESS DATA COLLECTION CENTER.*****SUMMARY:**

This bill requires the secretary of the state to create a business data collection center, to be the state's central repository for business and economic data, as part of the electronic business portal required by PA 11-48. Under the bill, the secretary must collect data from businesses transacting business in the state, as well as state and quasi-public agencies and non-governmental organizations.

The bill requires the secretary to determine what data to collect, in consultation with specified others. It requires her to make the information available to the public and to economic development organizations.

The bill also makes minor and technical changes.

EFFECTIVE DATE: October 1, 2012

BUSINESS DATA COLLECTION CENTER

PA 11-48 (§ 29) required the secretary of the state's Commercial Recording Division to establish an electronic business portal for businesses registering with the secretary. The portal must provide businesses with explanatory information and electronic links provided by other state agencies and quasi-public agencies, to help them (1) obtain necessary licenses and permits, (2) identify state taxes and other revenue responsibilities and benefits, and (3) find relevant state financial incentives and programs. The bill clarifies that the portal may provide such information and links from any type of entity, not just state and quasi-public agencies. (PA 11-48 imposed such a

restriction but also specifically allowed the portal to provide information and links from certain entities not fitting those parameters.)

The bill requires the secretary to establish a business data collection center as part of the electronic business portal, to be the state's central repository for business and economic data. The secretary must collect data from (1) entities doing business in Connecticut, (2) state agencies, (3) quasi-public agencies, and (4) non-governmental organizations. Entities doing business in the state must supply any requested data in conjunction with their annual filing and reporting requirements.

Under the bill, the secretary must design and prescribe the methods and forms for data collection. In determining the type and scope of data to collect, she must consult with the economic and community development commissioner; the dean of UConn's school of business administration; and representatives of other state agencies, quasi-public agencies, and nongovernmental organizations. The bill allows the secretary to enter into agreements with state agencies, quasi-public agencies, and nongovernmental organizations concerning data collection through electronic and other means.

PA 11-48 allows the secretary to provide the information businesses submit when registering to other state and quasi-public agencies, for economic development, state revenue collection, and statistical purposes, as the law provides. The bill deletes this provision, instead requiring the secretary to compile the information she collects as part of the data collection center and make it available to the public and to public and private organizations that aid and promote in-state economic development.

COMMITTEE ACTION

Judiciary Committee

Joint Favorable

Yea 42 Nay 0 (03/21/2012)